

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 70/12/93

Distr: UA/SC

22 June 1993

**Further information on UA 178/93 (EUR 70/10/93, 2 June 1993) - and follow-up:
EUR 70/11/93, 14 June 1993 - Legal concern/Ill-treatment**

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA:

Vuk Draškovi_, President of the Serbian Renewal Movement (SP0)

Danica Draškovi_, his wife

Liljana Lasi_ and about 30 others

Amnesty International has received further information about the medical condition and treatment of Vuk and Danica Draškovi_, whose health has suffered seriously from the beatings they received at the hands of police following their arrest on 1 June 1993.

A 10-member team of professors from Belgrade University Medical Faculty, all forensic experts, examined Vuk and Danica Draškovi_ early in the week beginning 14 June. According to a report by the international news agency Reuters, they concluded that Vuk Draškovi_ had suffered skull and brain damage: "he had sustained blood clots in the lower part of the brain and injuries to the substance of the skull in the form of clinically manifested brain concussion and contusion". The experts reportedly concluded that, at the time of their infliction, these injuries were grievous and life-threatening. Their report also stated that Vuk Draškovi_ suffered from headaches, disrupted balance, amnesia and impaired hearing, all pointing to brain and skull damage which did not preclude the possibility of further complications. They concluded that Danica Draškovi_ had suffered injury to her spine, and that in both cases injuries were inflicted by "repeated powerful action with a blunt mechanical instrument".

On 18 June Vuk Draškovi_ was taken under heavy police guard to the Military Academy Hospital for treatment on the order of the Serbian Ministry for Internal Affairs, but according to SPO sources quoted by Reuters, "he did not wish to be treated by the military after being beaten by the police". After refusing to be examined or treated, he was taken back to prison hospital.

On 20 June Vuk Draškovi_ was reportedly admitted to the Neurological Clinic of Belgrade Medical Faculty for treatment and his wife was due to be admitted to the Orthopaedic Clinic of the same institution on 21 or 22 June.

On 19 June riot police reportedly blocked an attempt by some 2,000 anti-government demonstrators to reach Belgrade Central Prison where Vuk Draškovi_ and his wife were being held. An eyewitness reportedly saw police beat and arrest about five demonstrators.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes and airmail letters either in English or your own language:

- expressing continued deep concern at reports of the poor health of Vuk Draškovi_ and his wife Danica, caused by injuries inflicted by police officers at the time of their arrest on 1 June;
- welcoming the decision for them to be granted appropriate medical treatment in a civilian hospital;
- urging the authorities to initiate a prompt, independent and impartial inquiry into their ill-treatment and to bring those responsible to justice;

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- expressing concern at reports that police have continued to beat demonstrators
- as most recently in Belgrade on 19 June;
- urging that police be informed of, and required to implement, international standards for the use of force;

APPEALS TO:

1) President of the Republic of Serbia:

Mr Slobodan Miloševi_
Predsednik Republike Srbije
Srpskih vladara 14
11000 Beograd
Yugoslavia

Telegrams: Serbia President Miloševi_, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Faxes: + 38 11 682 167

Salutation: Dear President

2) Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Serbia:

Mr Zoran Sokolovi_
Ministar unutrašnjih poslova Republike Srbije
Kneza Miloša 101
11000 Beograd
Yugoslavia

Telegrams: Serbia Minister Sokolovi_, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Faxes: + 38 11 683 041

Salutation: Dear Minister

3) Premier - President of the Serbian Government:

Mr Nikola Šainovi_
Predsednik Vlade Republike Srbije
Nemanjina 11
11000 Beograd
Yugoslavia

Telegrams: Serbia Prime Minister Šainovi_, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Faxes: + 38 11 682 167

Salutation: Dear Premier

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Federal Minister for Human Rights and Minority Affairs:

Ms Margit Savovi_
Bulevar Lenjina 2
11000 Beograd
Yugoslavia

Humanitarian Law Fund:

Terazije 6/III
11000 Beograd
Yugoslavia

and to the diplomatic representative of Yugoslavia accredited to your country.

The World Conference on Human Rights is being held in Austria this month and you can enhance the power of your appeals by also sending copies to the diplomatic representative of Yugoslavia in Austria during June at the following address:

YUGOSLAVIAN EMBASSY:

Botschaft der Föderativen Republik Jugoslawien
Rennweg 3, 1030 Wien
Austria

Faxes: + 43 1 713 25 97

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 3 August 1993.